United Nations A/C.6/59/L.1

General Assembly

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Fifty-ninth session
Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat finds it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to draw the attention of the Sixth Committee to the following.

Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2004, the General Assembly allocated 17 items to the Sixth Committee. The list of those items is contained in the letter dated 17 September 2004 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/59/1).

Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The following table lists the documents of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to the documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Sixth Committee,[1] in accordance with requests of Member States.

[1] The figure in square brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the fifty-ninth session. The list of documents is based on information available as at 17 September 2004.

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	Projected date of issuance
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [138]	
Note by the Secretariat transmitting comments and observations received from Governments (A/59/180 and Add.1)	Issued
Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts [139]	No advance documentation
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [140]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/59/321)	Expected on 29 September 2004
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [141]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/59/125)	Issued
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [142]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/59/22))	Issued
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-seventh session [143]	
Report of the Commission (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/59/17))	Issued
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-sixth session [144]	
Report of the Commission (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/59/10))	Expected end of September 2004
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [145]	
Report of the Committee (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/59/26))	Expected early November 2004

	Projected date of issuance
International Criminal Court [146]	
Note by the Secretariat	Expected early October 2004
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [147]	
Report of the Special Committee (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/59/33))	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/59/189)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/59/334)	Expected on 5 October 2004
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [148]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/59/37))	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/59/210)	Issued
Letter dated 12 May 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/83-S/2004/387)	Issued
Letter dated 1 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/124-S/2004/532)	Issued
Letter dated 8 September 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/337-S/2004/721)	Issued
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [149]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 52* (A/59/52))	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/59/226)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings [150]	No advance documentation
Observer status for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly [151]	
Letter dated 24 February 2004 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/141)	Issued
Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly [152]	
Letter dated 15 April 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/142)	Issued
Observer status for the Collective Security Treaty Organization in the General Assembly [157]	
Letter dated 10 August 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/59/195 and Corr.1)	Issued

Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> "Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item."

5. Bearing in mind the number of meetings available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 11 below), it is proposed that the Committee set a target date of 11 November 2004 for the conclusion of its work.

6. The Sixth Committee may wish to consider, for the purpose of adopting its programme of work, the following timetable, which indicates approximate dates of consideration for the agenda items referred to it, and has been drawn up on the basis of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and previous programmes of work adopted by the Committee:

	Approximate dates of consideration
Sixth Committee (organization of work)	4 October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-seventh session [143]	4 and 5 October
Observer status for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly [151]	5 October
Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly [152]	5 October
Observer status for the Collective Security Treaty Organization in the General Assembly [157]	5 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [148] (working group)	5, 6 and 8 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [147]	7 and 8 October
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of the United Nations and Associated Personnel [149] (working group)	11, 12 and 14 October
Status of Protocols Additional to Geneva Conventions and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [140]	13 October
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [141]	13 October
International Criminal Court [146]	14 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [148]	18 and 19 October
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [149]	20 October
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings [150]	21 and 22 October
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [142]	25 and 26 October
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [138]	27 October
Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts [139]	28 October

	Approximate dates of consideration
Question time (General Assembly resolution 58/316, annex, para. 3 (d))	29 October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-sixth session [144]	1-9 November
Reserve	10 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [145]	11 November

Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. Concerning agenda item 148, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the General Assembly, in its resolution 58/81 of 9 December 2003, decided that the work (of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996) should continue, if necessary, during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee. In the light of the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee contained in paragraph 14 of its report[2] and following further consultations with the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee, 5, 6 and 8 October have been reserved for that purpose.

8. Concerning agenda item 149, entitled "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel", the General Assembly, in its resolution 58/82 of 9 December 2003, requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the measures taken to implement the resolution. It also decided to include the item in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session, and that "the work shall continue during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee". In the light of the above and following consultations with the Bureau, 11, 12 and 14 October have been reserved for that purpose.

9. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 11 below), any meetings for working groups or for informal consultations would have to be accommodated in place of, rather than in addition to, meetings allocated to the Committee.

Deadline for submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

10. According to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the Fifth Committee. Under the circumstances, if 11 November is accepted as the concluding date for the work of

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/59/37).

the Sixth Committee (see para. 5 above), 29 October 2004 would have to be considered as the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications.

Conference resources available

11. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than 9 or 10 plenary meetings per week and the working groups referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 above to hold, respectively, 6, and 4 meetings for the week. Morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

12. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Planning and Meetings Servicing Section through the Secretary of the Committee.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-ninth session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item 150
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings

Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Benin, Burundi, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu and Zambia: draft resolution

International convention against human cloning

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,[1] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 11 November 1997, in particular article 11 thereof, which states that practices which are contrary to human dignity, such as reproductive cloning of human beings, shall not be permitted,

Recalling also its resolution 53/152 of 9 December 1998, by which it endorsed the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/69 of 25 April 2003, entitled "Human rights and bioethics", adopted at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission,

Also bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/39 of 26 July 2001, entitled "Genetic privacy and non-discrimination",

[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, resolution 16.

04-52714 (E) 300904

Aware of the rapid development of the life sciences and of ethical concerns raised by certain of their applications with regard to the dignity of the human race and the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the individual,

Concerned about recently disclosed information on research into and attempts at the creation of human beings through cloning processes,

Convinced that human cloning, for any purpose whatsoever, is unethical, morally reproachable and contrary to due respect for the human person and that it cannot be justified or accepted,

Recalling that recognition of the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2]

Seeking to promote scientific and technical progress in the fields of biology and genetics in a manner respectful of human rights and for the benefit of all,

Concerned about the serious dangers of a medical, physical, psychological and social nature that human cloning may imply for the individuals involved, and alarmed that it may cause the exploitation of women,

Recalling its resolution 56/93 of 12 December 2001, by which it decided to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Determined to prevent, as a matter of urgency, such an attack on the human dignity of the individual,

1. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to be reconvened from _____ to _____ 2005 in order to prepare, as a matter of urgency, the draft text of an international convention against human cloning, bearing in mind that it will not prohibit the use of nuclear transfer or other cloning techniques to produce DNA molecules, organs, plants, tissues, cells other than human embryos or animals other than human beings, and recommends that the work continue during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly from _____ to _____ 2005 within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

2. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to consider, in developing the draft convention, the proposals put forward during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Urges* States to prohibit any research, experiment, development or application in their territories or areas under their jurisdiction or control of any technique aimed at human cloning, pending the adoption of an international convention against human cloning;

4. *Calls upon* States to adopt such measures as may be necessary to prohibit those techniques of genetic engineering that may have adverse consequences on the respect for human dignity;

5. *Strongly encourages* States and other entities to direct funds that might have been used for human cloning technologies to pressing global issues in developing countries, such as famine, desertification, infant mortality and diseases,

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

including the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS);

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

7. *Invites* the Ad Hoc Committee to take into consideration the contributions of United Nations agencies and competent international organizations in the process of negotiations;

8. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session an item entitled "International convention against human cloning".

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Fifty-ninth session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item 151
Observer status for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly

China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Observer status for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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Fifty-ninth session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item 157
Observer status for the Collective Security Treaty Organization in the General Assembly

Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan: draft resolution

Observer status for the Collective Security Treaty Organization in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the Collective Security Treaty Organization to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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Fifty-ninth session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item 152
Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly

Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

1. *Decides* to invite the Southern African Development Community to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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Fifty-ninth session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item 159
Observer status for the Economic Community of West African States in the General Assembly

Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo: draft resolution

Observer status for the Economic Community of West African States in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States,

1. *Decides* to invite the Economic Community of West African States to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

04-53030 (E) 011004